स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Steps to uplift standard of rural women

1734. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have stressed the need for involving rural women in the development proceses of the country;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard to the State Government to uplift the rural women; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps Government propose to take to uplift the standard of rural women in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) In so far as Department of Women & Child Development is concerned, guidelines for a new scheme of Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) have been issued. The details are as under:

The objective of this programme is to render support to employment programmes for women in large employment sectors such as Agriculture, Dairying, Small Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Khadi and Village Industries, Handlooms, Handicrafts, Sericulture etc. These projects would provide technical, institutional organisational and social support to women belonging to the poorer economic groups. The thrust of this approach will be to work through the poor and for the poor like the landless labourers, the fisherfolk, the village artisans etc., who would be encouraged to form their own organisations. The role of the voluntary organisations will be that of a catalyst, to help them to analyse their own situation and help to unite and work together.

The project proposals would be formulated by the Corporations, Boards, Non-Governmental Organisations, Universities, Central Social Welfare Board, State Social Welfare Boards, other semi-government agencies funded by Government.

Rehabilitation of T.B. Patients

1735. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it a fact that patients suffering from T.B. and other infectious disease and face rehabilitation problem after treatment;

(b) whether Government are considering a proposal for opening of rehabilitation Centres for those patients who are cured and are unable to support themselves for lack of a livelihood; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) Assistance is being provided by the Ministry of Welfare for developing services for the disabled for Rehabilitation, physical, Psychological, Social and economic under the "Scheme of Assistance to Organisations for the Disabled persons". Cured T.B. patients do not acquire any disability and can engage themselves in the normal activities. However, so far as cured Leprosy patients are concerned there is a scheme under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme for the establishment of Leprosy Rehabilitation Promotion Units to provide rehabilitation

facilities. The Government is giving financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 41.33 lakhs for the recurring and non-recurring expenditure for these units.

Corporations for employment of women

1736. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have directed the State Governments to set up corporations to promote employment of women;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the names of the States where such corporations have been set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As in the Statement attached herewith.

Statement

(b) The details of the new scheme of "Women's Development Corporations" of the Department of Women & Child Development are as under:

It is proposed that Women's Development Corporation would be set up in the States with the objecive of promoting employment generating activities amongst women. These Corporations would actively support and promote schemes for women's groups and women from the weaker sections of society. Necessary safeguards would however be provided to ensure that the advantages under this scheme are not appropriated by women, who are relatively better off, by way of benami transactions.

The Corporations would act as catalytic agents for generating economic activities among women. The functions of the Corporation would include:—

Identification of potential areas of employment;

Assistance for project formulation and raising required finance;

Arranging raw material for working women in multiple occupations;

To provide training consultance facilities; and

To provide infrastructure for marketing the products.

The Centre would provide funds to the States for setting up or running the Corporations through equity participaion upto 49 per cent of the equity.

The Corporation would also obtain credit under the differential rate of interest scheme or any other concessional scheme. A budget provision of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has since been made for implementing the scheme for the year 1987-88.

(c) The names of the States where such Corporations are inexistance are as under:—

(i) Punjab

(ii) Chandigarh

(iii) Tamil Nadu

(iv) Maharashtra

(v) Gujarat

(vi) Andhra Pradesh.

Train rakes lying unutilised

1737. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of train rakes remain idle for many hours at several places in the country;